FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

22 FEBRUARY 1984

Lebanon

Saudi-Syrian Talks — After two meetings between President Hafiz al-Asad and Crown Prince 'Abdallah, the Syrian and Saudi viewpoints were "identical" on the need to halt the fighting in Lebanon to enable the parties to work for a national dialogue. The two sides also agreed to resume joint efforts to achieve peace and national reconciliation, an official source announced in a statement broadcast by Damascus radio on 22 February. The statement came after Al-Asad held a second closed meeting with Prince 'Abdallah in Damascus while Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam earlier received Saudi mediator Prince Bandar ibn Sultan, according to the radio. Prince Bandar said in remarks reported by Radio Monte Carlo that he was "very pleased" with his talks with Khaddam and he described the Syrians as "very cooperative." Rafiq al-Hariri, Prince Bandar's colleague, subsequently briefed Lebanese Foreign Minister Elie Salim by telephone and said he would return to Beirut shortly to convey the Syrian stand, Beirut radio noted.

As for President Amin al-Jumayyil's position on the 17 May agreement, Beirut radio said he has decided "in principle" to cancel the agreement with Israel but will not officially announce this decision until Saudi mediators have completed their discussions. Foreign Minister Salim earlier denied that Al-Jumayyil had made any final decision on the agreement, stating that the president is still examining various alternatives, Voice of Lebanon radio reported.

Former President Camille Sham'un urged the government to reject Syria's latest proposals and disclosed that Lebanese Front leaders have requested a meeting with Al-Jumayyil to avoid any "ambiguities," according to the Voice of Lebanon and the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon. The latter source also asserted that Syria's "new condition" for a solution to the current crisis is a demand to supervise the training and arming of the Lebanese Army.

IDF Activity, Military Situation — The IDF unit which moved north of the Al-Awwali River on 20-21 February subsequently returned to its base, leaving no IDF units or strongholds north of the river, Israeli sources affirmed in remarks cited by Jerusalem radio. Defense Minister Moshe Arens, in remarks broadcast by the radio, likewise stated that the IDF has no fixed positions north of the Al-Awwali. He said IDF patrols and air raids north of the river are designed solely to keep "PLO terrorists" out of the area and not to protect Al-Jumayyil's regime. Noting that whatever happens north of the Al-Awwali "interests" Israel, he disclosed that "some understandings" had been reached with the Druze on preventing "terrorists" from reentering the area. Nevertheless, Deputy Prime Minister David Levi and other ministers have "reservations" about IDF activity north of the river, even though Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir has approved it, according to the radio.

In Beirut Amal Movement leader Nabih Birri announced in remarks broadcast by Beirut radio that Lebanese Army units in the western sector will be deployed in the city on 23 February to assist the Internal Security Forces in maintaining law and order. The 6th Brigade will police the airport and the access road to it, he said, and the reopening of the airport will be announced soon. Regarding the Palestinian civilians in Beirut, Birri said they need blankets more than artillery batteries, adding that "the armed presence is harmful even to the Palestinian brothers."

Iran-Iraq War

Iranian forces launched the first stage of the Val-Fajr VI operations on two fronts about 100 km apart in the western and central sectors of the battlefront: on the operational axes of Chazabah, northeast of Bostan, and Chilat, northwest of Dehloran, Tehran radio announced. Iranian units captured "dozens" of kilometers of land, killing or wounding a "considerable number" of men from Iraq's 4th Division in the process, according to a communique cited by Tehran radio. Hand-to-hand combat continues in the Chazabah gorge area, and the road to the Iraqi town 'Ali al-Gharbi is now within range of the advancing troops, Tehran radio reported. There has been "increasing mutiny" among Iraqi units with soldiers deserting and joining Iranian forces, Tehran's Arabic service claimed citing a source in the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution in Iraq.

An Iraqi military spokesman, in a statement broadcast by Baghdad Voice of the Masses radio, reported that an Iranian force had been "wiped out" when it attempted to attack the northern and southern flanks of Iraq's IV Army Corps. An Iraqi military commander at the battlefront, in a statement to INA, emphasized that "false" Iranian claims about an advance by its forces cannot conceal the numbers of Iranian dead which "litter" the battlefield.

A spokesman for the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command, in an earlier statement broadcast by Voice of the Masses, announced that the Iranian regime was preparing to launch a "large-scale military offensive" aimed at penetrating Iraqi borders and destroying or occupying Iraqi cities. According to "available" information, such an attack is "imminent," the spokesman added. Should the attack occur, Iraq will not be satisfied with confronting the aggression by "defensive means," nor will it confine its activities to "defensive retaliation." Iraq will respond with activities "commensurate" with the aggressors' "intentions" and with the damage caused to Iraqi cities, even if this means carrying out activities against targets "deep inside Iranian territory," the spokesman warned.

President Saddam Husayn, in a message to the Iraqi Army and people broadcast by Voice of the Masses on 22 February, said that it is clear Iran means to launch what it terms a "decisive" battle against Iraq. The president expressed confidence that his

forces will "crush" the enemy. The commander of the Iraqi Air Force and air defense informed the president that the Air Force is "fully prepared," its targets "clear and fixed," and its weapons ready and waiting for the order to "decisively reply" to Iranian aggression and to turn enemy territory into a "continuous hell," Voice of the Masses announced.

In another development, an Iraqi military spokesman announced the shelling of Ash-Shihabi by Iranian artillery, Baghdad radio reported. This showed that Iran "has not honored" its promises to refrain from attacking residential areas, a declaration only meant to appeal to public opinion, the spokesman said.

GCC Defense

During their recent meetings in Doha, GCC defense ministers authorized the GCC General Secretariat's military committee to devise a joint defense plan, GCC Secretary General 'Abdallah Ya'qub Bisharah disclosed at a press conference reported by WAKH. Affirming the GCC states' determination to safeguard their independence through a policy of self-reliance, Bisharah indicated that a GCC working team is currently studying the possibility of establishing a joint war industry.

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Soviet Embassy Reportedly Attacked 14-15 Feb

BK211422 Hong Kong AFP in English 1352 GMT 21 Feb 84

[Excerpts] Islamabad, Feb 21 (AFP) — Afghan mujahedeen attacked the Soviet Embassy in Kabul using rockets last week in the biggest insurgent operation mounted in the capital for two months, Western diplomats said here today. Quoting diplomatic cables from Kabul, they said artillery and machine-gun firing was heard throughout the night of February 14 to 15 all over Kabul.

Soviet reinforcements accompanied by Afghan police were deployed during the night round the Soviet Embassy in the Dar ol Aman District in the south western part of the city. Soviet guns went into action to destroy several houses near the embassy from where the insurgents launched their attack. At the same time, the mujahedeen pounded several military positions in the Karte Seh and Karte Shar Districts.

On Wednesday morning, the entire area was cordoned off by Soviet and Afghan troops who organised a house to house search forbidding residents to leave their homes until past noon.

The authorities have once more imposed stringent security measures on the capital after a brief period of relaxed tension. Earlier this month, some restrictions were lifted after the security clampdown imposed for the December 4 anniversary of the Soviet intervention.

Three days before the operation on Tuesday night, ten Soviet soldiers leaving the Khairkhana barracks died when a bomb exploded under their jeep. The barracks have been under daily mortar fire by insurgents trying to prevent bombardment from the barracks' artillery batteries of villages north of the capital.

The same sources said heavy fighting and air raids went on all week in the Shomali plain which extends for about 60 kms (38 miles) north of the capital to the foothills of the Hindu Kush.

In the northern Shomali at the entrance to the Panjsher Valley, the towns of Gulbanar and Charikar were partially destroyed in three weeks of air raids. But Western diplomats said local mujahedeen, reinforced by "mobile squads" from the Panjsher loyal to Major Ahmad Masud, were still in firm control of the region.

In a letter which arrived this week in Peshawar, Major Masud claimed that the raids in the Northern Shomali were the prelude to a new offensive in the Panjsher. In this insurgent stronghold, a ceasefire agreed last winter after the sixth unsuccessful offensive by Soviet troops is still holding.

Western diplomats said the resistance fighters had also looted and destroyed a big arms and ammunition depot near Ghazni south of Kabul. Elsewhere there were reports of air raids round Qandahar in southern Afghanistan and Herat in the west where the insurgency has gained ground. A number of aircraft arrived in Kabul last Friday and Saturday from Herat bringing back the bodies of Afghan soldiers.

The trunk road between Kabul and Herat through the wilderness of Nimruz and Helmand Provinces is reported to be closed since the beginning of (?February).

'Counterrevolutionaries' Accept Amnesty in Badghis

LD101449 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0454 GMT 10 Feb 84

[Text] Kabul, February 9, BAKHTAR: A ten-member group of counterrevolutionaries availing of the general amnesty decreed by the Presidium of the Revolutionary council of the DRA surrendered themselves to the security forces in Badghis Province.

The group belonged to the criminal Jamiate Islami band.

In a meeting held on the occasion the chairman of the National Fatherland Front of the province spoke on the principled and humanitarian course of party and state.

Then Abdul Rasul, the leader of the surrendered group speaking on behalf of the group, repented their past criminal actions and pledged their full support to the government.

Security Forces' Operations Against Rebels

LD101450 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0448 GMT 10 Feb 84

[Text] Kabul, February 9, BAKHTAR: As a result of the successful operations carried out by the security forces of the DRA more than 50 criminal murderers were smashed in the subdistricts of Qandahar Province, Moqor District of Ghazni Province and Tangi Saedan District of Kabul Province recently.

During the operations, more than 50 units of assorted lethal weapons, a large amount of bullets, handgrenades, a motor cycle, etc. were captured from the bandits.

Qandahar, Samangan Cited

LD150016 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Text] In continuation of the crushing of rebels and the destruction of their satanic nests, our people are being saved from the foul actions of these barbaric criminals and they are strengthening their solidarity with the revolutionary party and government.

According to reports from a security source in Qandahar city, a large number of rebels were killed as a result of operations carried out by the vigilant security forces in the (Chawni) area of Qandahar Province. A large quantity of American, Chinese, Egyptian, and Pakistani weapons and ammunition were seized from these professional terrorists.

Similarly, as a result of operations carried out by the brave security forces in Dowlatabad village of Samangan Province, a large number of rebels were killed and a quantity of weapons and ammunition was seized.

'Crushing Blows' Inflicted

LD160956 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] The courageous fighters of our beloved homeland, revolutionary Afghanistan, by inflicting crushing blows, shatter the nests of the agents of the imperialist espionage organizations whose hands are tainted with the blood of hundreds of the sons of our homeland.

Quoting a security force spokesman, a BAKHTAR agency correspondent reports from Parwan Province that recently a successful operation by the vigilant security forces was carried out in the villages of (Reza Kohestan), (Tapa-e Malekan), (Qalandar Khel), (Qandikoh), (Kham-e Zargar) Karez, (Garendeh), (Karez Tapa) (Karim Khel), (Miyan Shah), Zargaran, (Qarya-e Lala Mirza), and the Zakhira area of Jabal os Saraj. A number of the sold-out rebels were crushed and 31 assorted weapons, 36 hand grenades, 250 kg ofexplosives, 2 antitank mines, 20 rounds of rocket missiles, 12 rounds of ammunition for recoilless rifles, and 1,721 rounds of ammunition for heavy weapons were seized from them. In addition, two mortars, one rocket launcher, one foodstuff storeroom, and one medical depot were destroyed.

According to another report, an operation was recently carried out in (Deh Naw), Karez, and Sufi, Herat Province, as a result of which 8 assorted weapons, 600 rounds of ammunition, 1 antitank mine, 1 loudspeaker, and a large quantity of propaganda leaflets indicating the illegitimate links of the rebels with imperialism, were seized.

Also recently, an operation was rendered by the security forces in the Islam (Pour) area, Nangarhar Province. A number of rebels were killed and 30 assorted weapons were seized.

Quoting a spokesman for the security forces in Konar Province, a BAKHTAR agency reporter says that recently a successful operation was carried out in that province, as a result of which a number of the counterrevolutionary elements were crushed and a quantity of weapons and equipment were seized.

Similarly, an operation was carried out in the SangCharak District, Jowzajan Province. Some 14 rebels belonging to the so-called Eslami band were seized. Two [words indistinct] also belonging to them were destroyed.

Another report reaching us from Qandahar Province: The vigilant security forces recently carried out a successful operation in (Qarya-e Chashma) of that province, as a result of which a number of elements, traitors to the homeland and people, belonging to the murderous bands of rebels, were wiped out, as well as a large amount of weapons and equipment destroyed. One motorcycle and a number of antistate documents, showing the links of those criminals with imperialist states, were seized.

Also, as a result of an operation in Nangarhar Province, a number of rebels belonging to the murderous bands of the so-called Eslami were killed. A quantity of weapons and assorted equipment was seized, and a truck belonging to the rebels was destroyed.

185 'Eliminated' in Kapisa

LD161815 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 16 Feb 84

[Text] A series of operations were carried out recently by the vigilant security forces, with the cooperation of the toiling people, in Kuhestan District, Kapisa Province, as a result of which 185 counterrevolutionary elements who had disrupted the peaceful life of the local people were eliminated. Two of them were captured and a large quantity of weapons were seized from these murderers.

According to another report, the courageous security forces in Nangarhar carried out a series of operations in the (Lachar Kur) and (Moshwani) regions of that province. Some 47 counterrevolutionaries belonging to Gulbuddin's murderous and criminal band, headed by (Khani), were eliminated. One of them was captured and 16 assorted weapons, one rocket launcher,and a large amount of assorted ammunition were seized.

Citing a source of the security forces in Herat Province, a BAKHTAR reporter writes that as a result of an operation recently, which was carried out in the [name indistinct], (Qala-e Zar) and (Tangar) villages and in the (Ghowryan) District of that province, 88 counterrevolutionaries belonging to the so-called Eslami band were killed and 23 of them were captured. Seventeen assorted weapons along with 1,200 rounds of ammunition were seized from them.

Also as a result of operations by the security forces of Paktia Province in the Nader Kowt District, Khowst General District, 12 rebels were killed and 15 antipersonnel mines, weapons, and equipment were seized.

According to a BAKHTAR correspondent from Badakhshan Province, recently a 29-man group belonging to the Jami'at-e Eslami band and the ('Abdol Basir) and Khalis groups, realizing the truth of the April Revolution and recognizing the lofty and humane aims of the PDPA, utilizing the DRA Revolutionary Council's Presidium general amnesty decree, joined our revolutionary state along with 20 assorted weapons.

While repenting their past actions, they pledged to fight against the counterrevolutionary bands and todefend their motherland to their death.

According to another report, as a result of an operation carried out by the vigilant security forces in the Golran District, Herat Province, nearly 200 armed rebels, along with two of their ringleaders were crushed. Some 70 assorted heavy and light weapons and three caches of their weapons were destroyed.

Ershad Martyrs Day Message Calls for Unity

BK211345 Dhaka Overseas Service in English 1230 GMT 21 Feb 84

[Excerpt] Saheed [Martyrs] Day is being observed throughout the country today with due solemnity. On this day, the nation recalls with gratitude the sacrifices of the martyrs of 1952 language movement and pays homage to them.

In a message on the occasion, President Ershad called for united efforts to establish our own language, culture, and heritage in their real glory and build a new and prosperous Bangladesh. Paying rich tribute to the martyrs, he said the best way to pay our homage to them is to make combined efforts to achieve the cultural and linguistic goals and free the nation from exploitation, neglect, hunger, diseases, poverty, and illiteracy.

General Ershad said: Born out of the blood-stained Ekushey [21 February], the awareness of our national identity gradually (? deepened) the beacon of light that led us through the war of independence in 1971.

President Ershad said it is not merely an observance of the day but the pledge to translate the dreams of the Saheed into reality. Our homage to the Ekushey marchers will remain incomplete if we cannot materialize their dream of building ourselves in our own way. He said being imbued with the ideals of the language movement, the whole nation will have to carry out a sacred responsibility if we are to succeed.

Gen Ershad regretted that the presence of our mother tongue is not all comprehensive in our day-to-day work because a mental makeup needed for this purpose is lacking. He said the present government is determined to introduce Bangla [Bengali] in all spheres in national life and appropriate steps have already been taken in this direction.

The president paid tribute to the memories of those who laid their lives to establish our mother tongue and motherland and prayed for the salvation of their souls.

Martyrs Day Clash Erupts; Leaders 'Rush for Safety'

BK221126 Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 21 Feb 84 pp 1, 12

[Text] Observance of Ekushey [21] February began one minute after midnight of Monday-Tuesday with the laying of wreaths at the Central Saheed Minar [maryrs memorial] by President and CMLA [Chief Martial Law Administrator] Lt. General H.M. Ershad.

Clashes between supporters of Chhatra Sangram Parishad [Students Action Council] and pro-government Natun Bangla Chhatra Samaj [New Bengal Students Society] and Natun Bangla Jubo Sanghati [New Bengal Youth Union] before midnight and attack of Janadal leaders after midnight marked the beginning of the observance of Ekushey. At least 20 persons including Mr. Mizanur Rahman Chowdhury, Vice-Chairman of Janadal, Dr. Khairul Bashar, Professor of Bio-Chemistry, Dhaka University were injured in the incidents. Professor Bashar and Rafiqul Alam (32) were admitted to the DMCH [Dhaka Medical College Hospital] with serious injuries, while the rest of the injured persons were released after first aid.

The President arrived at the Central Saheed Minar three minutes before midnight and laid wreaths amidst strictest security measures. The President was followed by Naval Chief and Rear Admiral M.A. Khan, Air Chief Air Vice-Marshal Sultan Mahmud who separately laid wreaths on behalf of their respective services. The President was accompanied by Home Minister Maj. Gen. Abdul Mannan Siddique, Education Minister Dr. Amjad Khan and high military officials. Other Cabinet members came in a microbus and somehow managed to place the wreaths at the minar. Meanwhile, President H.M. Ershad left the Saheed Minar premises by the eastern gate and the supporters of Chhatra Sangram Parishad and members of the public rushed to the Shaheed Minar by the western gate breaking the police cordon.

The entire Saheed Minar was under their control. Air Chief Sultan Mahmud and members of the Cabinet had to rush for safety to avoid brickbats hurled at them by members of the public. At this stage Mr. Mizanur Rahman Chowdhury climbed the plaza of the Saheed Minar leading a party procession carrying party banner. He was not allowed to climb the stairs to the altar. Members of the public snatched away the party banner of Janadal and started beating the party leaders. Mr Mizanur Chowdhury was dragged down from the stairs across the road to the eastern side when police intervened and saved him. He was removed in a police jeep. Other leaders including Mr Shamsu Haq another Vice Chairman somehow managed to escape.

AFP Account

BK211443 Hong Kong AFP in English 1426 GMT 21 Feb 84

[Text] Dhaka, Feb 21 (AFP) — About 50 people were wounded here in clashes marring opening ceremonies for Bangladesh's Language Martyrs Day celebrations today, reports said.

Language Day, the country's biggest cultural event, is held February 21 in memory of four students killed by police in 1952 as they demanded that Bengali become the state language of what was then East Pakistan. The martyrs' memorial, built on the site of the shooting near Dhaka University campus, is a symbol of Bengali nationalism as the movement culminated in the successful struggle for independence in 1971.

Eyewitnesses said that supporters of the opposition-leaning Students Action Committee and the pro-government student organisation pelted each other with stones as they fought for control of the memorial, where government leaders were due to lay wreaths at midnight. Police and para-military troopers moved in before President Hussain Mohammad Ershad and members of his cabinet arrived for the ceremony.

Security forces had difficulty holding back the demonstrators, who threw stones and shouted anti-government slogans when he appeared, the witnesses said. As Lieutenant-General Ershad left, hundreds of opposition students broke through police ranks and took over the memorial.

THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER said that some cabinet ministers who arrived later to lay wreaths had to bolt for safety after being showered with stones. The demonstrators also manhandled Mizanur Rahman Chowdhury, leader of the new government-backed Janadal Party, it said. Police had to rescue him and his supporters from the crowd.

Two people, including a university professor, were hospitalised with serious wounds following the clashes. Twenty other people, mostly students, were treated at a nearby medical college hospital, the newspaper added.

After midnight, the students posted large photographs of Bangladesh's two murdered presidents, Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and General Ziaur Rahman, on the memorial.

Police baton-charged the crowds several times, the *ITTEFAQ* daily said.

AFP Reports Rajshahi University Closed

BK220945 Hong Kong AFP in English 0916 GMT 22 Feb 84

[Text] Dhaka, Feb 22 (AFP) — The authorities today indefinitely closed down a second university, a scene of persistent militancy, two days after violent clashes between students and shopkeepers there, officials sources said.

No reason was given for the closure of Rajshahi University in the west of the country, but officials said the decision was taken at a meeting of the university syndicate presided over by the vice-chancellor.

The students were ordered to vacate their hostels by early afternoon today, following the closure of Jahangir Nagar university, about 20 miles from Dhaka, on February 11 for student agitation and campus violence.

Rajshahi students fought shopkeepers and other local residents near the campus on Monday in a clash in which 25 people were injured and 27 shops set ablaze.

It was the latest in a series of incidents at the university in the past few weeks where opposition student organisations have staged strikes and campaigned for the release of 14 student leaders.

A martial law court sentenced them to imprisonment for terms ranging up to life for campus violence last year in which two people were killed.

A total of 209 students staged a 48-hour hunger strike last week to press the demands. They also clashed with police and set on fire three police vans following student attempts to demonstrate.

Bangladesh has four other universities, Dhaka University and the Engineering University, both in the capital, the Agriculture University in the north and Chittagong University in the southeastern port town.

National Alliance Chairman on Elections, Dialogue

BK191026 Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 13 Feb 84 p 1, 12

[Excerpt] Mr Ataur Rahman Khan, Chairman of the 13-party Jatiyo Jote [national alliance] strongly advocated for restoration of a fully democratic system in the country with emphasis on development programmes to break the present political stalemate. He said that parliamentary form of government was more suitable for our country.

In an exclusive interview with *THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER* at his residence recently Mr Ataur Rahman Khan said that he had suggested to the President during dialogue to hold the presidential and parliamentary elections on the same day some time in November and to defer upazila [subdistrict] elections to enable the Parliament to work out its structures and powers.

In the interim period he suggested the Chairmen of the upazila should be nominated from among the elected Chairmen of the Union parishads [councils] or from outside. Advocating the revival of the suspended Constitution Mr Ataur Rahman Khan however said that he had no prejudice about the Presidental or parliamentary system. "What I want is a fully democratic system" he said. The elderly politician of the country said that if the presidential system is on the pattern of the United States he would not mind to accept the system. He said "our presidential system is a one man show."

About the success of the political dialogue Mr Ataur Rahman Khan said that it had definitely yielded positive outcome like lifting of ban on indoor politics. He also said that if the President announces the presidential and parliamentary polls to be held simultaneously it would be another positive achievement of the dialogue. He observed that if the presidential and parliamentary elections were held on the same day there would be little apprehension of Parliament elections being influenced by the ruling party. He, however, regreted that the Government was proceeding with their programmes without caring for the people.

About the introduction of upazila Mr Ataur Rahman Khan said "it is not a substantial improvement." He asserted that the Parliament should decide about the form of government and other fundamental issues. President should not be given the power to amend the Constitution.

Asked if he would join the Government with General Ershad Mr Ataur Rahman Khan said he would consider the offer if it comes formally. He denied having any offer from the Government. Clarifying his position Mr Khan said that his acceptance of the offer to join the Government would be conditional. He however did not elaborate the conditions.

He also broadly hinted that a broadbased political front comprising his Jatiya Jote, Oikya Jote [united alliance] of Khandokar Mustaque Ahmed, Muslim League and Janadal might be formed. Nothing concrete happened in this regard so far, he said.

Replying to why did he quit seven-party combine, Mr Khan said the seven party alliance should have participated in the dialogue. We could put five-point demand in the dialogue and that would not have been misconstrued as compromise in any way.

Regarding judiciary, he criticised the decentralisation of High Court Benches. He also opposed the dismissal of the Judge without going through the higher judicial council. This is unlawful he noted. Mr Khan further said that the independence of judiciary has been tampered with as the services of the High Court judges have been made transferable. Mr Ataur Rahman Khan observed that the High Court was the court of appeal and not the trial court. The trial courts may be set up even up to village level if the Government wanted so.

Replying to a question on lifting of Martial Law [ML], Mr Ataur Rahman Khan said that the ML should be withdrawn gradually. Asked what he meant by gradually Mr Khan said that the Martial Law courts should be abolished. He informed that the President had assured him that the Martial Law courts would not accept any new cases and the pending cases would be disposed of as quickly as possible. He however said that the Martial Law should he fully withdrawn the day Parliament goes into session.

OBSERVER on Indian Barbed Wire Fence, Assam Events
BK171529 Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 11 Feb 84 p 5

[Editorial: "Tragedy of Assam"]

[Text] The controversial barbed wire fence has at long last begun coming up like a shadow stretching along the Bangladesh border. Construction work has started with a small segment of the Assam sector — obviously to prevent what has been alleged as the illegal infiltrations into the state from Bangladesh. The fence is coming up in total disregard of the sentiments of the people and government of Bangladesh and "in violation of formal understanding with Bangladesh that no defence installation should come up within 150 yards of the either side of the border." But what intrigues all, including those in Indian circles, is that an Indian government minister himself has reportedly conceded that "infiltration from Bangladesh is now virtually non-existent." So what is the fence for?

Since this is a puzzle not readily soluble by the ordinary wits, we limit our comments today to the potentially volatile situation in Assam, keeping in view the present plight and future fate of the so-called aliens in the state and in the context of the tribunals reportedly set up to sort out the "infiltrators" and make them leave the state within a month of detection made by the tribunals.

Ostensibly in low profile at the moment, the anti-immigrants agitation in the state cannot be said to have ceased. One psycho-political reason for the erstwhile activists to have seemingly lowered their guards is a possible sense of their having been responsible a year ago for the massacres perpetrated in the name of ejection or elimination of the "infiltrators." The tragedy of more than three thousand men, women, and children being slaughtered and settlements set on fire was a jolt to international conscience whose reaction has been reflected in a sizable section of the world press. But prejudice, hate and parochial fanaticism fanned by political motives die hard. And one would not wonder if the present appearance of relative calm should prove a lull before another storm. Lest the tragedy of Assam should repeat itself our fervent hope is that positive measures would be taken by both state and central authorities to defuse a potentially incendiary situation in the state.

Neither the setting up of 11 tribunals (which are yet to start operating) promise a settlement of the vexed issued. The very framework of detection based on pro-and-post-1971 immigration figures is as patently unjust as it is legally, morally and humanly outrageous. The fact is, the bogey raised of illegal immigration or infiltration itself seems to be a covert stratagem for the uprooting of thousands of those humans who have grown legitimate roots in their areas of settlement. Most of them who have been there two or three decades ago under the then international freedom of movement of people (the U.S, for instance, being a living example of conglomeration of various ethnic groups — as well as India with its cultural and linguistic ones) achieved their integration not only through the length of their stay but also by the contribution they have made to the reclamation and development of the otherwise thick, unlivable, unproductive jungle and hill areas. They are simply there. And they have every right to be where they are. They have acquired the right under the international law and norms, and by the natural and moral sanction of history. It is this intensely human dimension of the problem that is conveniently slurred over both by the local elements as well as the central authority. And the barbed wire fence seems to be little else than an effort to put a good face on what is essentially unjust and a violation of democratic, secularistic and human rights.

Tribunal or no tribunal, one simple legitimate question to answer is: Where will those who will be detected as illegal immigrants go? Who will accept them and on what grounds? In terms of human tragedy alone such detections, ejections and expulsions will be a modern-day atrocity comparable to the Israeli massacre of the Sabra and Shatilla refugee camps and the expropriation of the Palestinians from their original hearths and homes. If this be the fall-out of the democracies, and human rights professed by governments and preached abroad by their heads, then God take care of them all! Maybe we live in a world where mostly "foul is fair and fair is foul," — with the bizarre the-wolf-and the-lamb logic to justify it.

Sultan Mahmud Leaves for Brunei Celebrations
BK220659 Dhaka Overseas Service in Bengali 1700 GMT 21 Feb 84

[Text] Deputy Martial Law Administrator [DCMLA] and Minister for Energy and Mineral Resources Air Vice Marshal Sultan Mahmud left Dhaka for Brunei Darussalam today. He is going there to attend the independence celebrations of the sultanate as special emissary of President and Chief Martial Law Administrator Lieutenant General H.M. Ershad. A four-member delegation led by the DCMLA will represent Bangladesh at the celebrations of Brunei's emergence as an independent and sovereign state.

Reportage on Situation in Punjab, Haryana

BK211641 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 21 Feb 84

[Text] The law and order situation in Haryana and Punjab continues to be under control. Addressing a news conference in Chandigarh today, the Haryana chief minister, Mr Bhajan Lal, said no untoward incident has been reported throughout the day. Claiming total normalcy in the state, the chief minister said over 50 percent of shops have reopened at Panipat while all shops are open in Karnal, Kaithal, Kurukshetra, and other parts of the state. Traffic is running smoothly on all the roads, he added. Seventy-two people were arrested for violating prohibitory orders under Section 144 [prohibiting assembly of over five people] in state; out of them, 40 people were arrested at Panipat.

The chief minister also clarified that shoot at sight orders against arsonists of religious places and public and private property were also applied to those violating Section 144.

The chief minister appealed to the people and political parties to maintain peace and communal harmony in the state. He also urged a minority community not to be misled by rumors spread by vested interest. He declined to comment on the Akali Dal's decision to send a high-level team to Haryana.

Meanwhile, one person who was injured in yesterday's incident at Jind has died. As a precautionary measure, middle, high and higher secondary school examinations have been postponed in the state for a week.

In Punjab, an official spokesman told the All-India Radio Chandigarh correspondent that except for an attempted arson in Bhatinda, no untoward incident has been reported from anywhere in the state. Curfew imposed on six towns in the state has been extended as a precautionary measure.

8 Killed in Chandigarh

BK220336 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 22 Feb 84

[Text] The Punjab all-party committee for communal harmony is meeting in Chandigarh this afternoon to review the situation and find out ways and means to strengthen peace and communal harmony in the state. The governor, Mr Pande, will preside over the 42-member committee. The Congress-I has asked the units in Punjab and Haryana to work for restoring peace and harmony in the violence affected areas in the two states. The party general secretary, Mr Chandulal Chandrakar, said in New Delhi that the state committees will organize processions, discussions, and meetings in their peace efforts.

The National Democratic Alliance has demanded a judicial inquiry into the incidents of violence in Punjab and Haryana. The central coordination committee of the alliance in a resolution said the inquiry should focus on the firing in Amritsar and killings in Panipat.

Meanwhile, according to an official spokesman in Chandigarh, 8 persons were killed and 10 injured when some unidentified persons opened fire in the market place at Kahnuwan and a neighboring village in Gurdashpur District late last evening. The victims were sitting in their shops when the assailants appeared and opened fire. Senior police and civilian officers along with heavy police reinforcements have rushed to the spot. A massive manhunt to apprehend the culprints has been launched in the area.

In Haryana, no untoward incident was reported yesterday. According to an official spokesman, full vigilance has been maintained. The superintendent of police, Jind, has been transferred. Jind was the scene of violent incidents on Monday.

Violence Reported 22 Feb

BK220905 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 22 Feb 84

[Text] In Amritsar, one person was killed and two injured when some unidentified persons opened fire at two different places in the city this morning. The culprits escaped on a motorcycle after the shootout. Police patrolling in the city has been intensified. The curfew in six towns imposed a few days ago has been further extended.

In Jind, shops opened today following an appeal by the peace committee presided over by the irrigation and power minister of Haryana, Mr Shamsher Singh. Mr Shamsher Singh along with the state excise and taxation minister, Mr Brijmohan, personally went to the bazaar and appealed to the people to carry out their business. The district magistrate of Jind also assured the people that the culprits who fired on a procession on Monday from a religious place will be brought to book soon.

Five senior Akali leaders today appealed to the people of Punjab and Haryana to help restore peace and communal harmony. They described as unfortunate the shootouts last night in Punjab in which 8 persons were killed and 10 others injured. The five laders are: Mr Prakash Singh Badal, former Punjab chief minister; Mr G.S. Tohra, Sikh Gurdwara Prabandhak [temple management] committee president; Mr Surjit Singh Barnala, former union agriculture minister; and Mr Balwant Singh and Mr Randhir Singh Cheema, former Punjab ministers.

Prime Minister Cautions Against Spreading Rumors

BK220920 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 22 Feb 84

[Text] The prime minister has said the country is passing through a difficult time and it is the duty of all of us to fight communal forces. She cautioned the people against rumors and said these are the worst enemies which weaken the nation and create hatred, fear, and suspicion. She appealed to the journalists to project news in its correct perspective, keeping in view their responsibility toward the nation. Mrs Gandhi was releasing a special addition of the Hindi daily *NAVJYOTI* in New Delhi this morning.

The prime minister regretted that some people are spreading rumors that the government is partisan toward a section of the

people. She asserted that this is totally baseless and said that the government is protecting constitutional rights of all the people. Unfortunately, demands are made which at the beginning look simple, but later create serious problems. We have to look at problems from a wider perspective.

Hidayatullah, Rao Meet With PRC's Huang Hua

BK211645 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 21 Feb 84

[Text] The former Chinese foreign minister, Mr Huang Hua, called on the vice president, Mr Hidayatullah, in New Delhi today. He also met the external affairs minister, Mr Narasimha Rao.

Gandhi Inaugurates Population, Development Forum

BK171126 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 17 Feb 84

[Text] The first conference of the Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development was inaugurated by the prime minister, Mrs Gandhi, in New Delhi this morning. Delegates from 33 countries are attending the 4-day conference. Mrs Gandhi called upon the Asian countries to have a timeframe to control their population. She reminded the delegates that growth of population erodes gains of development, and the poor are most adversely affected by it. Mrs Gandhi said that developing countries cannot afford to opt for the long, drawn process of controlling population through development. They just do not have time for this. Development, she said, is easier for advanced countries as prosperity itself is an effective contraceptive.

She pointed out that India is one of the first countries to adopt family planning as a national policy. The program forms part of our plan for economic development. Our target, she said, is to achieve a birthrate of 60 per 1,000 by the end of the century. It has already come down from 127 per 1,000 to 114. Unfortunately, a propaganda was carried out that there were forced sterilizations in the country. There is no truth whatsoever in this as the program has always been carried out on a voluntary basis. We rely on motivation, persuasion, and education to make this program popular among the masses. Effectiveness of the program, she felt, depends on local conditions and culture. Family planning forms a crucial part of 20-point program and parliamentarians as representatives of people can play an effective role in its successful implementation. The government wanted the people to adopt family planning out of its concern for the health of mothers and well-being of the children. We are dealing with human beings and with an issue which is so personal it has to be treated with due care. She regretted that some political parties use family planning program as a political weapon.

Addressing the delegates, the chairman of the global committee of parliamentarians on cooperation and development, Mr Takeo Fukuda, said that population and development are the most serious issues confronting mankind today. The chairman of the forum, Mr Takashi Sato, said governments must give political considerations to check population in harmony with their socio-economic conditions. The secretary general of the forum, Mr Satpal Mittal, suggested the creation of a mechanism like autonomous population commissions to implement and monitor family planning programs.

The delegates to the conference include noted personalities like Mr Huang Hua of China, Mr Helmut Schmidt of West Germany, and UN representatives.

In a message to the conference, the UN secretary general, Mr Perez de Cuellar, has praised the Asian initiative in tackling the most pressing issues of population and development. He pointed out that the parliamentarians are in a unique position as communicators between the governments and the people. They can help formulate appropriate policies and ensure success in their implementation.

Reports of Astronaut's Ill Health Denied

BK171245 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 17 Feb 84

[Text] Defense Ministry sources today denied a news agency report from Moscow that Squadron Leader Rakesh Sharma, selected for the joint space flight with a Soviet cosmonaut, is not well. The sources said there is no change in the decision to send him into space with Wing Commander Ravish Malhotra forming the backup team.

Val-Fajr VI Operations Launched 21 February

Communique No 1

GF220616 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0553 GMT 22 Feb 84

[Communique No 1 issued by Khatim ol-Anbya' Headquarters, center for joint operations of Armed Forces of Islamic Republic of Iran and Islamic Revolution Guards Corps]

[Excerpts] Muslim Iranian nation, Islamic nation: The zealous and sacrificing children of the hezbollahi nation, while carrying out the victorious Val-Fajr V operations, started the Val-Fajr VI operations, using the holy codename "Ya Zahra," on two fronts some 100 km apart in the western and central sectors.

The capable Islamic warriors again showed the power and might of the Islamic nation in recapturing their just rights by starting these operations which are taking place between Chilat, in the Dehloran axis, and Chazabeh in the Bostan axis and in the Iraqi Province of Al-'Amarah. They are going to bring the glad tidings of the final victory of Islam and the defeat and destruction of the agents of heathenism.

Reports of these victorious operations will be carried later for the benefit of our Muslim and martyr-nurturing nation.

[Signed] Khatim ol-Anbya' Headquarters, center for the joint operations of Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps

Communique No 2

LD220903 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0825 GMT 22 Feb 84

[Communique No 2 of Khatim ol-Anbiya' Headquarters, center for joint operations of Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and Armed Forces of Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Muslim nation, martyr-nurturing and revolutionary nation: The mighty combatants of Islam, in continuation of the Val-Fajr VI operations, which began at midnight last night under the codename "Ya Zahra" along the two axes of Dehloran and Bostan, 100 km apart, by relying upon the undiminishing power of God, crossed many obstacles including vast minefields and barbed wires and broke the enemy defense lines during an intense battle at 0100 hours this morning. During this intense battle, dozens of kilometers of the territory of the Islamic homeland were liberated. The combatants of Islam then continued advancing toward their objectives and, several hours after the start of the operation, liberated the important Iraqi border highway, one of the supply axes of the enemy forces, in the Chilat region on the Dehloran axis and killed or wounded a considerable number of troops from the Iraqi 4th Division.

The combatants of Islam will continue their operations with all in their power until they reach their objectives and until annihilation of the criminal Ba'thist-Zionist regime ruling over Iraq.

[Signed] Khatim ol-Anbiya', center for joint operations of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps

Communique No 3

LD221136 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 22 Feb 84

[Communique No 3 of Khatim ol-Anbiya' Headquarters, joint operations center of Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. We have won a manifest victory for you. [quotation from Koran] On the battlefronts of the war between the powerful forces of truth against the forces of evil and in the arena of self-sacrifice and faith, one can see the heroic and good-seeking fighters of Islam who draw their might from the eternal power of God and who are fighting against the agents of world blasphemy in order to achieve God's satisfaction. The presence of the combatant clergy on the battlefronts has bestowed special spirituality upon the glorious battlefronts of the war between truth and falsehood. The unity, self-sacrifice, and sincerity of the fighters of Islam, comprising the heroic personnel of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the self-sacrificing guards, and the mobilization units of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps who fight side by side with the self-sacrificing members of the Reconstruction Jihad and other beloved ones who are assisting the forces of Islam demonstrate the glory of the faith of a heroic nation.

Heroic Islamic nation, martyr-nurturing Iranian nation: The victorious Val-Fajr IV operations, which began last night on two fronts in Dehloran and Bostan, continues in full force and the fighters of Islam are continuing their advance toward predetermined targets.

In the Chilat axis, situated in the Dehloran sector, the fighters of Islam crushed the enemy's defenses and succeeded in liberating tens of square kilometers of territory of the Islamic homeland inside Iraqi territory and occupying the Badrah-Tib border road inside Iraq opposite Dehloran. Crossing the (Tila) River, the liberating forces of Islam liberated two heights overlooking the Iraqi town of 'Ali al-Gharbi and now the Al-'Amarah-Baghdad highway is within firing range of the victorious forces of Islam. In the Chazabah axis, situated inside Bostan region, our powerful forces liberated tens of kilometers under enemy occupation and are now busy fortifying their positions.

In both operational axes, our powerful forces killed or wounded a large number of defeated forces of the IV Corps of the Ba'thist-Zionist regime of Iraq and destroyed a considerable quantity of enemy equipment and weapons.

Fighting continues 17 km from the Baghdad-Al-'Amarah highway, in the junction between Kut al-'Amarah and 'Ali al-Gharbi, with the ever-victorious forces of Islam having superiority

[Signed] Khatim ol-Anbiya' — may peace be upon him — Headquarters, joint operations center of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps

Geographical Location

GF220918 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0753 GMT 22 Feb 84

[Excerpts] Dear listeners: Please pay attention to a report concerning the geographical location and the strategic position of Chazabeh Canyon, which forms the southern axis of the Val-Fajr VI operations. Chazabeh Canyon, which is witnessing the battle of right against wrong for the second time since last night, is located some 10 km west of Bostan. It is bordered by Hur al-'Azim in the south, the sand hills of the Meshtaq range in the north, Bostan in the east, and the Iraqi (Sheeib) Garrison in the west.

Today, the Islamic warriors are again winning new honor for Islam in the Chazabeh Canyon. The enemy is currently realizing the extent of the shakiness of the weak foundations of its dictatorial regime in the Chazabeh Canyon, which is the southern scene of the Val-Fajr VI operations.

With the assistance of God, victory is at hand.

Announcements Directed at Iraqi Forces, People

GF220834 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0745 GMT 22 Feb 84

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] In the name of God, the supporter of justice and the faithful. Iraq, we are coming. Country of Huseyn and of the martyrs, we are advancing toward you as we shout "God is great."

The Islamic fighters are advancing from various axes on the houses of the Zionist-Ba'thist spiders in order to deliver Iraq from the nightmare of the Takrit family.

Children of Islam in the Iraqi Army, to those of you who have been pushed by the rulers of Baghdad into the crazy war and to all those who left their families and children to be the cannon fodder of the U.S. Qadisiyah: Join the camp of Islam. Your brothers, the soldiers of Islam, welcome you. They want to rescue you so that you can return to your families and relatives and build your Iraq which has been plundered and destroyed by the servants of the United States, Britain, and France. Brothers, do join us and remember that you have mothers and children who are more in need of you than Saddam and his clique. God is great. Victory is to Islam.

Goals of Operations Explained

GF220900 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0820 GMT 22 Feb 84

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Excerpt] Children of the Iraqi people, against whom injustice is being perpetrated, children of the Iraqi Armed Forces: You have listened to the speech made by Saddam in which he addressed you, to the claims he made. You have listened to the expressions of humiliation and shame which were contained in this speech. He had been silent for some time, but now he has uttered blasphemy. He tried to distort the facts. He told you in this address the biggest lie in this history of this war. Let it be known to everyone that the Islamic army has launched these operations to attain the following goals:

1. To attain the genuine and factual independence of proud Iraq and not as Saddam wants it to be, to be humiliated by the United States and the Arab reactionaries.

2. The Islamic army only desires Iraq's progress and prosperity, in addition to wanting to rescue the people from the grip of the Western monopolizing companies.

3. Saddam, who has humiliated you, allowed the spoiling of your women, and made your children orphans, comes today to shed crocodile tears for his victims. We just want to avenge the shedding of blood by you innocent people and topple this bloody butcher.

Islamic Government Promised

GF220630 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 22 Feb 84

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Excerpt] Zealous children of Iraq, officers and soldiers of the Iraqi Armed Forces: The Islamic forces have begun their expanded operations to help you topple the tyrant of Baghdad who has devastated everything. The siege imposed by the Islamic forces on your units is an apt opportunity for you to join the ranks of Islam. Honest children of the Armed Forces, do march with your Muslim struggling people and join the ranks of the rebelling Islamic masses in Iraq. Know that the Islamic government which will be formed in Iraq will exonerate all those who fought Islam provided they join the people's ranks. The Islamic forces are coming. Take advantage of this precious opportunity to free yourselves from the filth of the infidel Ba'thist.

Iraqi Desertions Noted

GF220810 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0755 GMT 22 Feb 84

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] Honorable Muslims: A source from the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution in Iraq has reported — through a telephone dispatch — that there is increasing mutiny

in most of the military Iraqi units and that the soldiers of Iraq — individual soldiers and groups — are joining the triumphant Islamic army, while others are withdrawing from the positions of operations. The Iraqi Army has become disorganized on most of the fronts.

God is great, God is great. Victory is to Islam.

Surrender Urged

LD220847 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0748 GMT 22 Feb 84

[Text] Brothers who are the sons of oppressed Iraq, soldiers of the Iraqi Armed Forces, you people who are in the IV Corps: Beware, you are encircled! Look after yourselves! None of you will survive if you (?continue resisting). Under the withering fires of the Islamic artillery you will all be crushed! Your brothers the children of Islam are opening their arms to you. Surrender to them with your arms; raise the white flag and surrender! Thereby you will save yourselves, your families, your country, and your riches! By God, hurry up, for you have no chance.

Do not believe the tales spread by Saddam and his gang that he will succour you with forces and arms and that help is forthcoming! Do not believe this at all because no one will ever dare to come to this place!

Our forces have tightened their domination over this corps in its entirety and these forces have no choice except to surrender! Do not feel safe for yourselves, for your families! He who surrenders will live a new life formerly threatened with destruction! By God, hasten my son! There is no escape from this situation.

We want to cleanse the land of Islam from Saddam and his gang! These are the last days of the rule of Saddam, the tyrant who wants to humiliate you and humiliate all the sons of Iraq! Do not believe Saddam's tale when he says that your arms are stronger, that you are tougher, and that assistance for you is great! No, never! Our weapons are stronger, our succour is numerous, we are tougher. By God, brothers surrender. We are your brothers, we want to liberate you! Surrender and liberate yourselves from this infidel tyrant! Your brothers are here and you are encircled! We want to save you from the open terrorist rule. This fellow Saddam has completely fallen! [Sentence indistinct] Come on brothers, may God give you strength. When you surrender, your chant should be "God is great, victory to Islam, and death to Saddam!"

Overthrow Exhorted

LD221033 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0915 GMT 22 Feb 84

[Read by announcer in colloquial Iraqi Arabic]

[Excerpts] My brothers, sons of oppressed Iraq, all sons of the Koran in wounded Iraq, brothers, you sons of the nation, (Al-Bahadil), (Al-Shoreb), all you tribesmen of Al-'Amarah, (Albu Darraj), (As-Sudan), (Al-Bidan), (Al-Wuhaylat), my brothers from ('Ali ash-Sharji), (Adh-Dhuhaybat), you people on the borders and in the marshes, [name indistinct] and (Albu Muhammad), (Albu'id), (As-Subayyih), (Al-Furayjat), by God, brothers: None of you should remain at home! All of you should come out to fight Saddam's gang and to open the road for your brothers, the sons of Islam!

Brothers, (?in the evening it was a dream). You are the masters of this country, not Saddam and his gang. You the tribes: the (Sulalah), (As-Suwa'id), (As-Sarraj), (Albu Darraj), [name indistinct]; you are the citizens of Al-'Amarah and not Saddam and his malignant gang of Ba'thist assassins!

Brothers, only a few days remain in the life of this infidel tyrant. Let these be his last days! It is in your hands, brothers! And these brothers of yours, the Iranians who are coming, are smashing Saddam's military bases and are ending his domination, military or otherwise. Help them with your victorious jihad operations against the infidel Saddam.

Brothers, let the honor of ending this rancorous, infidel tyrant be yours and in your shouts do not forget to chant "God is great, victory to Islam, and death to Saddam!"

SAIRI Military Wing Calls for Volunteers

GF211633 Tehran IRNA in English 1610 GMT 21 Feb 84

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 21, IRNA — The military wing of the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution of Iraq (SAIRI) called all Iraqi combatant brothers to refer to SAIRI offices in Tehran and other Iranian cities for being dispatched to the war fronts for liberating the Islamic country of Iraq from the villainy of Saddam.

Rafsanjani: Saddam Husayn Regime Nearing End

GF220702 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 22 Feb 84

[Text] During a meeting with the minister of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and a number of army and guards commanders, the Islamic Majlis speaker and the imam's representative on the Supreme Defense Council stated: The Saddam regime is nearing its end because of the expanded fighting along the front of the imposed war being carried out by the forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Armed Forces Joint Staff Communique No 1,643

LD211727 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 21 Feb 84

[Communique No 1,643 of Joint Staff of Armed Forces of Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] Yesterday, in the Marivan and Panjwin operational sector, Islam's combatants opened fire on the enemy's positions, fortifications, and supply roads. As a result, all activities by the Saddamist forces were disrupted and one enemy tank, several squad trenches, and slit trenches were destroyed; two of their

loaders and bulldozers were damaged; and a number of Iraqi servicemen were either killed or wounded.

In the Piranshah, Sar Dasht, and Hajj 'Umran operational sectors, an exchange of fire continued and movements by enemy vehicles and infantrymen were observed, but thanks to fire from our forces these movements were halted. Moreover, one truck carrying enemy servicemen and a number of squad and one-man trenches were set ablaze and destroyed.

On the Bakhtaran and Ilam border fronts, an exchange of artillery and mortar fire continued sporadically, though the intensity of that fire in the Sumar, Qasr-e shirin, and Sar-e Pol-e zahab was greater. On these fronts, Islam's combatants, while safeguarding and protecting their defensive positions, retaliated by subjecting enemy positions and units to heavy weapons fire and thus silenced the fire of Iraqi forces and curbed their operational and engineering activities.

On the southern fronts yesterday, our fighting forces fired on enemy artillery positions and trenches, inflicting losses and casualties, dispatched patrol groups, and carried out observations to scrutinize all enemy movements on the western bank of the Arvand Rud where they destroyed five enemy squad trenches.

Iraqi Counteroffensive Foiled 20 February
LD202052 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 20 Feb 84

[Text] According to a report by the ISLAMIC REPUBLIC NEWS AGENCY, a counteroffensive launched by the aggressive Iraqi forces in the Val-Fajr V operational zone was foiled at 1500 hours today. In this counteroffensive, the enemy, leaving behind several tanks, light and heavy vehicles, and other equipment and suffering 200 dead, was forced to retreat.

President Receives Envoy, Al-Qadhdhafi Message
LD212113 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 21 Feb 84

[Text] According to a Central News Unit report today, Mr Khansari, ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran to Libya, was received today by Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, president and chief of the Supreme Defense Council, to whom he presented a message from Libyan leader Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi. During the meeting, the president gave the ambassador guidelines regarding the daily increasing fraternal relations between the two countries.

Agreement Signed With Japan for Steelworks Complex
LD201343 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 20 Feb 84

[Excerpt] Following the construction of various units in the Mobarakeh steelworks complex, an agreement has been signed between Iran and Japan for the construction of direct reduction furnaces for the complex. The signing of this agreement, which is the biggest technological agreement since the victory of the Iranian Islamic Revolution, will enable this complex to produce 2.4 million metric tonnes of industrial steel per year in the form of steel sheets and galvanized steel sheets with a thickness of 0.3 to 16mm. This complex will supply a large part of Iranian industry's steel requirements. It is necessary to mention that this complex, which will be completed at an estimated cost of 400 billion rials, will meet the country's requirements for the next 10 years, with the help of the Ahvaz steelworks complex and Esfahan's iron foundry.

The raw materials of the complex — the main and most important of which are iron ore, lime stone, gas, electricity, water and fire-bricks — will be supplied domestically. With the operation of this complex, a new chapter will start in our country's industrial history. The managing director of the Mobarakeh steelworks complex granted an interview to our correspondent on the signing of the agreement for building these furnaces. We draw you attention to this interview:

[Begin recording; managing director] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. This is the biggest technological agreement signed since the revolution and has particular distinctions. For instance, before the revolution, the same project was going to be signed with such European countries as Germany at a cost of about $285 million, including the cost of spare parts. Today, we are signing the agreement at a cost of around 182 million rials, bearing in mind that we are receiving further concessions. For example, we have the right to manufacture under license, that is, we can design and manufacture in the country. Also it should be realized that there have been technological developments and higher inflation throughout the world since then. This agreement will complete the Mobarakeh steel project, and through the direct reduction process it will be able to produce steel from the (?sponge iron) phase to steel sheets.

Other benefits from this project include a technological transfer as specified in the agreement. That is, as I said, we have the right to manufacture under license and we can develop the project ourselves in the future. This project can be rapidly absorbed in the region because it is located in Esfahan, and the people of this industrial city are very familiar with and talented in industry. Therefore, the project could be expanded to other parts of the country, God willing. [end recording]

Successful Operations Against Minigroups Detailed
LD181846 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 18 Feb 84

[Text] The Islamic Revolution's Public Prosecutor's Office of Tehran has announced: Under the circumstances when the criminal Saddam is resorting to some last-ditch threats to bomb civilian areas, the remnants of the vanquished minigroups, in line with this subservient puppet of the world arrogance, have joined hands in order to, as it were, make certain regions of our Islamic homeland insecure. However, little do these people know that God is lying in ambush for criminals.

Based on a calculated infiltration, the Islamic Revolution's Public Prosecutor Office of Tehran identified a number of these fugitive agents a long time ago. These elements were engaged in

killing the brave and Muslim tribal people as well as plundering the most deprived classes of the towns and mountainous regions of Fars, Boyer Ahmad va Kohkiluyeh, and Esfahan. They were planning to realize their ominous and criminal objectives of their world-devouring masters in the domestic fronts.

In three stages, as follows, the Public Prosecutor's Office of Tehran, with the cooperation of the selfless brothers in the Islamic Corps of Revolution Guards and the Central Committee of the Islamic Revolution, completely smashed their organizations, arrested a number of them, and sent their leaders to hell:
On 22 November 1983, three hideouts belonging to the Monafeqin were captured in Yasuj, capital of Boyer Ahmad va Kohkiluyev Province, following an armed clash by our selfless brothers in the Central Committee of the Islamic Revolution and the contingency group of the Public Prosecutor's Office of Tehran. These hideouts were the center for the supply of the mini group. As a result, two members of the Monafeqin were killed and five members were arrested.

On 16 January, all the Monafeqin forces, who had been hiding in the mountains of Nurabad in Mamasani and were engaged in hatching plots, were arrested by the joint efforts of the brothers in the Nurabad Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, the Central Committee of the Islamic Revolution, and the contingency group of the Tehran Islamic Revolution Public Prosecutor's Office.

On 14 February, in the course of an armed confrontation and the bravery of the selfless members of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps of Sector 2, Allah Qoli Khan Jahangiri and six of his criminal associates were sent to hell. This individual used to collaborate with SAVAK during the insidious reign of Pahlavi. After the Islamic Revolution, advocating Marxist ideology, he had immersed his hand, up to his arm, in the blood of the brave and deprived tribal people of the region, our brothers in the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and Mobilization. Recently, he had joined the so-called National Council of Resistance, as called upon by the Monafeqin. Moreover, a number of other Monafeqin were also arrested.

In this same connection, the official in charge of Allah Qoli Khan's organization is one of those arrested. During the three stages of operations against the infidels and the Monafeqin, a considerable quantity of various weapons and ammunition, internal documents, and various types of transmitters and communication equipment were seized by the Islamic forces.

Sane'i Statement

LD181823 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 18 Feb 84

[Text] State Prosecutor General Yusuf Sane'i issued a statement in connection with the annihilation of a mercenary and treacherous bandit. The statement says in part:

In a clash with the powerful forces of Islam, Allah Qoli Khan Jahangiri — who had committed countless crimes including martyring a group of innocent people of Semirom and brother guards, having links with Khosrow Qashqa'i, provoking guillible individuals to indulge in corruption and to fight against the Islamic Government, and looting people's belongings — was killed.

Therefore, this office calls upon all individuals who have cooperated with this mercenary hireling in various ways to surrender themselves to the Islamic Revolution Public Prosecutor's office or the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps of the region within 5 days after the release of this statement to take advantage of Islamic leniency and mercy. Otherwise, they will be punished as moharebs [those who wage war against God, who are punished by death] in accordance with the regulations.

Appeal for Information

LD211411 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1330 GMT 21 Feb 84

[Text] The Islamic Revolution Committee issued the following statement: Thanks to the cooperation of the 36-million-strong intelligence organization and the efforts of the self-sacrificing revolution guards, the agents of the Eastern and Western superpowers, including all the deviant minigroups and those waging war against God, are on the verge of disintegration and annihilation. There are still a few groups of misled hirelings engaged in futile and desperate activities against the Islamic Revolution, which will bring them nothing but further disgrace and humiliation. Therefore, we call upon the martyr-nurturing and Muslim people to report every suspicious and counterrevolutionary move to the news headquarters of the Islamic Revolution Committee of Tehran Province as soon as possible. This headquarters is open 24 hours a day and can be contacted on phone No 31-00-00 to 31-00-09. I repeat phone No 31-00-00 to 31-00-09.